

Remark

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 1-11, 15, and 18 have been amended. Claims 19-22 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-22 are now presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection,

Langford et al.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Langford et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,206,929). Applicant respectfully traverses. Langford teaches an editing system that controls *viewing and editing of* multiple laser disks simultaneously. The examiner cites a w/o disk recorder in Fig.2 as an audio processing module. However, even if the w/o disk recorder were an audio processing module in the broadest sense of the definition, the w/o disk recorders in Fig. 2 of Langford do not teach or suggest a capability of each w/o disk recorder being capable of controlling a plurality of tracks. Langford does not teach or suggest controlling multiple audio tracks associated with each of a plurality audio processing modules. The Final Office Action assumes that a laser disk or video unit provides the same features as an audio processing module, but that is clearly not the case. The pieces of sound associated with a frame of the type that would be listened to in Langford represent the cumulative sound of the video take from that camera's position. In contrast, the audio processing module, in the present application, processes multiple sound elements into a single audio piece, thus the need for multiple tracks that correspond to a given audio processing module. Langford is primarily concerned with editing *video* takes of a scene.

Although it mentions allowing one to play back audio, it does not teach or suggest a method of controlling multiple audio processing modules that can each control multiple audio tracks.

In addition to Langford not teaching controlling multiple audio processing modules, Langford does not teach collapsible control boxes that can be collapsed to a single control box that simultaneously controls multiple tracks associated with a “collapsed” audio processing module control. See page 9 of the specification that states, “The present invention includes a mechanism which provides control of all tracks (e.g., 16) of an EBX with a single control box 411 (referring to figure 4). That is, all control boxes corresponding to all tracks of an EBX may be collapsed into a single control box 411 by selecting a menu item from the GUI 400. The single control box will then control all tracks of the EBX selected. Thus, if a record button is selected, all the tracks for that particular will start recording. This mechanism is useful in situation where all tracks of an EBX are controlled in the same manner.” These collapsible control boxes allow, for instance, all 8 tracks of 105 (105,1; 105,2; . . . 105,8) to be collapsed into a single control box (105) that controls all 8 tracks at one time. Given these distinctions, Langford does not produce every element of the claims as now presented and a favorable action on the merits is requested.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

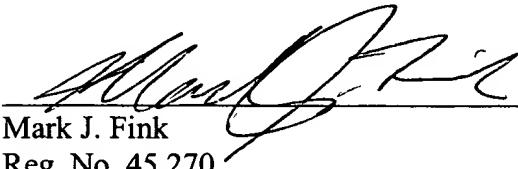
Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 29, 2000


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